



# COVID-19 Update

**Date:** Friday, April 17, 2020

**To:** HHS Leaders

**From:** **Gail Johnson, Executive Director, Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medical Program (HRLMP)**

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**Subject:** **Diagnostic testing and COVID-19 turnaround times**

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The Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medicine Program continues to expedite turnaround times for COVID-19 test results. Thanks to the diligent work of our team, our turnaround time for reporting results are 10 to 12 hours on average, compared to the Provincial direction of reporting within 24 hours.

Lately, we are seeing an influx of requests for stat testing and associated results. Given our current workflow, this is disruptive for our staff, as they are pulled away from their primary focus, which is finalizing results and reporting for COVID-19.

Unfortunately, we are not in a position to prioritize any specific units or programs that send requests for stat testing. We plan to revisit this after our capacity increases.

At this time, we are advising all teams to migrate to our COVID-19-only test, when indicated, as per memo entitled, *Important Update to COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing*, dated April 9 and [found here](#).

We continue to monitor results daily and can provide specific metrics to those who are interested.

We appreciate your support.

